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Tarhara Alcaraz

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

H. Kirk HAMMOND et al.

Serial No.:

09/847,936

Filing Date: May 3, 2001

For:

TECHNIQUES AND COMPOSITIONS FOR TREATING CARDIOVASCULAR

DISEASE BY IN VIVO GENE

DELIVERY

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Group Art Unit: 1646

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

DEDITY AND DATENTS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully request entry of this Preliminary Amendment for the above-identified patent application.